UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

| Madeleine Tulk, | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Plaintiff, | Case No. 1:21-cv-10144 |
| v. | |
| Citizens Disability, LLC, | Complaint and Demand for Jury Trial |
| Defendant. | |

COMPLAINT

Madeleine Tulk (Plaintiff), by and through her attorneys, Kimmel & Silverman, P.C., alleges the following against Citizens Disability, LLC (Defendant):

INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff's Complaint is based on the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA),
 47 U.S.C. §227 et seq.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. This Court has subject-matter jurisdiction over this case under 28 U.S.C. §1331, which grants this court original jurisdiction of all civil actions arising under the laws of the United States, confirmed as applying to cases under the TCPA by Mims v. Arrow Financial Services, LLC, 565 U.S. 368 (2012).
- 3. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because Defendant conducts business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
 - 4. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1) and (2).

PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff is a natural person residing in Buford, Georgia 30518.
- 6. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 7. Defendant is a corporation with national headquarters located at 1075 Main Street, 4th Floor, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451.
 - 8. Defendant is a "person" as that term is defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(39).
- 9. Defendant acted through its agents, employees, officers, members, directors, heirs, successors, assigns, principals, trustees, sureties, subrogees, representatives, and insurers

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 10. Plaintiff has a cellular telephone number ending in 5898.
- 11. Plaintiff has only used this phone number as a cellular telephone.
- 12. Defendant repeatedly called Plaintiff on her cellular telephone ending in 5898 for solicitation purposes.
- 13. When contacting Plaintiff on her cellular telephone, Defendant used an automatic telephone dialing system and automatic and/or pre-recorded messages.
- 14. Plaintiff knew Defendant was calling her using an automatic telephone dialing system and automatic and/or pre-recorded messages as she received calls from Defendant that began with a noticeable pause or delay prior to a live representative of Defendant coming on the line.
- 15. Defendant's calls were not made for "emergency purposes" rather the calls were made for solicitation purposes.
 - 16. Plaintiff has been on the Do Not Call Registry since February 24, 2020.

- 17. Plaintiff did not consent to these communications and did not seek information from Defendant.
- 18. Since Plaintiff was on the Do Not Call Registry, any calls could have only been made solely for purposes of harassment.
- 19. Defendant's incessant calls were bothersome, disruptive and frustrating for Plaintiff to endure.
- 20. Upon information and belief, Defendant conducts business in a manner which violates the Telephone Consumer Protection Act.

COUNT I DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE TCPA 47 U.S.C. § 227(B)

- 21. Plaintiff incorporates the forgoing paragraphs as though the same were set forth at length herein.
- 22. The TCPA prohibits placing calls using an automatic telephone dialing system or automatically generated or prerecorded voice to a cellular telephone except where the caller has the prior express consent of the called party to make such calls or where the call is made for emergency purposes. 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(iii).
- 23. Defendant initiated multiple telephone calls to Plaintiff's cellular telephone number using an automatic telephone dialing system.
- 24. The dialing system used by Defendant to call Plaintiff's cellular telephone calls telephone numbers without being prompted by human intervention before each call.
- 25. The dialing system used by Defendant to call Plaintiff has the present and/or future capacity to dial numbers in a random and/or sequential fashion.
 - 26. Defendant's calls were not made for "emergency purposes."

- 27. Defendant's calls to Plaintiff's cellular telephone without any prior express consent.
- 28. Defendant contacted Plaintiff despite the fact that Plaintiff has been on the Do Not Call Registry since February 24, 2020.
- 29. Defendant's acts as described above were done with malicious, intentional, willful, reckless, wanton and negligent disregard for Plaintiff's rights under the law and with the purpose of harassing Plaintiff.
- 30. The acts and/or omissions of Defendant were done unfairly, unlawfully, intentionally, deceptively and fraudulently and absent bona fide error, lawful right, legal defense, legal justification or legal excuse.
- 31. As a result of the above violations of the TCPA, Plaintiff has suffered the losses and damages as set forth above entitling Plaintiff to an award of statutory, actual and trebles damages.

COUNT II DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE TCPA 47 U.S.C. § 227(C)

- 32. Plaintiff incorporates the forgoing paragraphs as though the same were set forth at length herein.
- 33. The TCPA prohibits any person or entity of initiating any telephone solicitation to a residential telephone subscriber who has registered his or her telephone number on the National Do-Not-Call Registry of persons who do not wish to receive telephone solicitations that is maintained by the Federal Government. 47 U.S.C. § 227(c).
- 34. Defendant contacted Plaintiff despite the fact that Plaintiff has been on the Do Not Call Registry since February 24, 2020.

- 35. Defendant called Plaintiff on two or more occasions during a single calendar year despite Plaintiff's registration on the Do Not Call list.
- 36. Defendant's acts as described above were done with malicious, intentional, willful, reckless, wanton and negligent disregard for Plaintiff's rights under the law and with the purpose of harassing Plaintiff.
- 37. The acts and/or omissions of Defendant were done unfairly, unlawfully, intentionally, deceptively and fraudulently and absent bona fide error, lawful right, legal defense, legal justification or legal excuse.
- 38. As a result of the above violations of the TCPA, Plaintiff has suffered the losses and damages as set forth above entitling Plaintiff to an award of statutory, actual and trebles damages.

Wherefore, Plaintiff, Madeleine Tulk, respectfully prays for judgment as follows:

- a. All actual damages Plaintiff suffered (as provided under 47 U.S.C.
 §227(b)(3)(A)) and §302.302 of the Texas Business and Commerce Code;
- b. Statutory damages of \$500.00 per violative telephone call (as provided under 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B));
- c. Additional statutory damages of \$500.00 per violative telephone call (as provided under 47 U.S.C. § 227(C);
- d. Treble damages of \$1,500.00 per violative telephone call (as provided under 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3));
- e. Additional treble damages of \$1,500.00 per violative telephone call (as provided under 47 U.S.C. § 227(C);

- f. Injunctive relief (as provided under 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3) and (c); and
- g. Any other relief this Honorable Court deems appropriate.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Please take notice that Plaintiff, MADELEINE TULK, demands a jury trial in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 01/27/2021 By: <u>s/ Craig Thor Kimmel</u>

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